

for the hen with chicks, that is, if the broody hens could be obtained, which is very doubtful.

Many poultrymen pay too slight attention to brooders. They will purchase first-class incubators but neglect the brooders. They seem to consider them of minor importance. The fact is, brooders are of equal importance with incubators. It is a more difficult matter to raise chicks (either the natural or artificial way) than it is to hatch them. It may be said that more depends upon the brooder than upon the incubator. If at any time the chicks get overheated or chilled they are weakened in vitality. The brooder should be capable of holding an even temperature and of giving sufficient ventilation to the chicks. These are the most important requirements although there are other considerations. With good brooders it is not a difficult matter to raise to maturity strong, healthy chicks.

The poultryman should not, above all, attempt to make a brooder. It is better to purchase one made by experts. They have had experience and know the requirements. It is impossible for an amateur to build one as good. Unless kiln-dried lumber is used in their construction they will be sure to warp out of shape. The heating parts which a novice would use would be very crude. There might be danger of fire from them, but even if there was no danger the heater might smoke the interior of the brooder and suffocate all the chicks. Then the ventilation is not of the best in home-made brooders. They are, in fact, very poor contrivances and the poultry raiser will do well to leave them alone and purchase those which have been tried and whose worth has been demonstrated.

The value of artificial incubating and brooding to the poultryman can scarcely be over estimated. The poultryman who uses them for the first time this year will find that he has taken a long stride in the right direction.

#### The Farm Phone.

The farmer with a phone in his home has all the world on a down-bill pull. He sits by his fire and sells his cotton when it reaches 11 cents because his samples are stored in the town, even though his cotton is at that time under the cow-lot shed. He learns when he comes from the field at noon that the carload of seed potatoes ordered by him and his neighbors, has arrived and goes to town immediately for his own share, and by phone agreement hauls home the portion belonging to two neighbors for enough money to pay for his phone service that year. On the next day he is too busy to send a horse to the town, four miles away, for a bushel of seed corn, he must have for immediate planting. (just arrived by express, he learns by phone), and since there is no parcels post he pays a thriftless neighbor, who is going into town to buy bacon, "four bits" to bring the seed corn out to him. That is better than stopping a three-horse plow for a half day. At night he inquires of Squire Lively, over the phone, how he is pleased with the improved double-row corn planter, and on learning that it is O. K., he orders one to be delivered the next day from his nearest implement house. It arrives and saves 50 cents a day in labor for the ten days of this planting season. The phone is a veritable money-maker in the rural home. It is a builder of society, an insurance against violence and an ever-present help in case of sickness.—Farm and Ranch.

#### Agricultural Schools.

The whole country is becoming interested in the establishment of agricultural and industrial schools. The West and Northwest and East are advocating them.

At the Cane Growers' convention, held in Mobile last week, Col. Edward Daniel, one of the foremost thinkers of the day, and a man who has given the best of his life to educational causes, made an eloquent and forceful plea for the work in Alabama.

The convention adopted a resolution favoring the plan. Dr. W. C. Stubbs, one of the foremost men in the promotion of agricultural and horticultural work in the South, in his speech before the same convention, warmly advocated Col. Daniel's idea. At the last meeting of the Alabama State Horticultural convention, held at Throsby, Alabama, a resolution was passed favoring the establishment of an agricultural high school in every county in the state of Alabama. Let us have these schools—we need them. Those who reside in the country, and make farming their life-work, should have the equipment which only the very best technical education can give. They need it because it will better their conditions and elevate them and their profession. When a young man realizes that he can make more money on the farm with the same amount of labor he has to perform as a clerk, or as a member of the other professions, there is no doubt he will lean to the business that brings best results in health, happiness and money.

What hope is there for a man, working on a small salary in a city, ever to own his own home; ever to be his own master. Its not much of a city home a man can buy for \$5,000, yet, with that amount, he can purchase a splendid small farm. With the farm his own, and with the right kind of education, he can always make a good living and save money. With a \$5,000 city home and no income except his salary to maintain himself and family, he will soon have to part with his city home.—Floral World.

#### Home Grown Products for the Table.

To one our state is a playground, to another a workshop, and again it is a haven of rest and recreation, where the soft winds, unlike any other on earth, soothe the tired nerves and give one that feeling of—  
"Nothing to do in this world of ours  
Where weeds spring up with fairest flowers."

that we all get after the proverbial ten years that entitle us to the name Cracker; but to the homemaker who must prepare food three times a day for appetites whetted by the health-giving ozone of our fair state—Florida is a reality.

The tin can is sometimes a Godsend. Let's not condemn it entirely, but let us see how much of a variety we can grow here, that with some careful preparation can be made food fit for an American to eat. Milk, butter and eggs with all their accessories are to be had here in abundance and the best the world affords. The sweet potato is at home with us; aside from the ordinary methods of preparation, we have the sweet potato pone and the sweet potato custard pie, so nearly like the far-famed pumpkin pie, we scarce raise that vegetable.

Cassava has many possibilities. Wash, peel, grate, wash in much water, use the coarse part for pudding, prepare the cassava the same way for griddle cakes, using only a small amount of flour, and it is a change to use one-half a cup of same in custard pie, using only two eggs instead of three.

Then the starch that settles in pan, when it is washed, can be dried and used for starch and for flour; for light bread, one-third cassava flour and two-thirds wheat flour make a nice bread.

Arrow root, I am told, can be used the same as cassava.

Both rye and oats raised in Florida are parched and ground and used in the place of coffee to the entire satisfaction of many.

The Yukon plant is raised and the leaves used for tea.

The Jamaica sorrel grows to perfection here. The calyx of the pods, when made into jelly, gives one of the finest products in this line.

The kumquat, after being soaked over night in soda water, makes a delicious preserve jelly and marmalade, and crystallized it is much sought.

The orange, the still unsolved problem in our state, is never so fine in any way as eaten fresh from the tree. Yet, there are a few months in the

year when we can not have it fresh, hence we extract juice, bring to a boil and can. Oranges are nice preserved and jellied, and a marmalade made of the puce and pulp is nice to eat with meats. A confection manufactured from the peel of either orange or grapefruit is relished by all. We must not omit the orange short cake and the orange pudding so nice in the orange season. Sliced oranges with pulp of grapefruit and sugar an hour before serving, gives a toothsome sauce; then adding to this sauce sliced bananas and pineapples and grated cocoanut we have ambrosia that truly is a dish for an honest American. A cup of grapefruit juice in a custard for cake-filling is fine. The grapefruit can be used in all ways we use the orange.

The loquats (if the freeze don't take them) are a great addition to the table, dried, preserved, canned with or without sugar they can be used for sauce, pies, short cake or jelly.

The peach is largely raised and all know its possibilities.

The Kelsey plums, peeled, halved and pitted can be canned so one can hardly tell them from peaches.

And the sweet, wild plum is used in many ways with us.

The fig grows in luxuriance in certain spots in our state and is much used for canning and preserving and the finest vinegar is made from the fig. Also yeast from the leaves.

Three months of the year we can have the Kaki or Japan persimmon, smothered in sugar and cream for breakfast.

Pineapples, we can, preserve, make into marmalade and with the aid of yellow cattley guava juice, make fine jelly; the peel washed and covered with slightly sweetened water will, in a day or two, be a refreshing drink that soothes but does not inebriate. The guava is so common that we scarce need dwell upon its uses—jelly, paste, marmalade, etc.

The Avocado pear for salads and again cooked a little and made into marmalade is highly prized by the cultivated taste.

The citron we only preserve.

Surinam cherries we can and jelly. The LeConte pear is canned, preserved and dried here to quite an extent.

The grape grows in most healthy luxuriance, and could we but exterminate the mocking bird, bluejay and woodpecker we could grow the finest varieties, such as Delaware, Concord, Brighton, etc., but the thick skinned scuppernong in several varieties gives us a chance for preserves and jellies and the juice of the grape brought to a boiling and sealed will keep indefinitely as a refreshing drink.

Honey is largely produced in the state.

Sugar and syrup from cane are manufactured extensively.

Bananas are raised to a limited extent (it is Jack frost who limits the extent) but we have enough for a delicious banana pudding once in a while.

The raising of strawberries is quite an industry in our section and who does not enjoy a strawberry short cake?

Our subject as you see, is too far-reaching—vegetables we have left for some one else to write about.

We are indebted to Mrs. Chas. Lewis, of St. Petersburg, for suggestions regarding fruits raised in that delightful part of the state.

With many misgivings have we prepared these few notes. You know much that I have omitted, but if you kindly say "She hath done what she could," we will feel repaid.—Mrs. H. H. Harvey, before the State Horticultural Society.

The Plainview Herald tells of a carload of Kaffir corn fed hogs that sold at Ft. Worth recently for \$5.97 1-2 per hundred-weight, when the market was topped the same day by a car of corn-fed hogs from Oklahoma at \$6.00 per hundred-weight. There is no doubt that Kaffir corn makes a good packer's hog.

The Fort Myers Press tells of the good fortune of Mr. T. M. Lybass, formerly of Fort Myers but now of Cuba; something like this: Mr. Lybass had a cattle ranch in Lee County and had all he could do to navigate. The Spanish war increased the price of cattle from \$5 to \$18 and he came out well on the deal. After the war the price for cattle was reduced and he went to Cuba and started a cattle ranch. While there he became interested in lands and now he has become rich by selling 47,000 acres to a Chicago syndicate at a very great profit. Not every man would have succeeded in Cuba, but this man has.

The attendance at Farmers' Institutes this winter has been larger in most sections of the country than ever before. It is not uncommon to see 100 to 400 or 500 farmers turn out to an institute meeting, and when they come, they are there for the entire session. One noticeable feature is the close attention that is given to all that is said and the intelligent questions asked the lecturers. This certainly shows progression among our farmers, and anyone who says that the farmers are not interested in their profession and anxious to learn is not acquainted with them.—Coleman's Rural World.

If every buyer of seed corn this spring should insist that his corn came on the ear, the supply would be reduced almost one-half. Yet no one who has read the discussion on corn in the Rural World can doubt that this is the best way to purchase his seed corn. Some seedsmen make the excuse that they shell their corn to save freight on the cobs, but this is probably not the principal reason, for a higher price is usually received for corn on the ear. If your seedsmen will not supply you with ear corn, try some other one who will; there are plenty of them. Insist upon buying ear corn and test it thoroughly yourself before planting.—Coleman's Rural World.

Jensen, Fla., Nov. 16, 1904.

E. O. Painter, Esq.:

Jacksonville, Fla.,

Dear Sir:

Please ship me six tons Bean Fertilizer same as you sent me last. I will add that I tested it carefully by side of — and so far your goods at \$27.00 per ton, are giving better results than — at \$37.50. Several of my neighbors are watching results and think it will be a big ad. for your goods.

Bill my order to Stuart, Fla., and oblige,  
Respectfully,

H. E. Olds.

Jensen, Fla.

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